GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2883
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2002
PROPER INDICATION ON PRODUCT LABELS
C. SREENIVAASAN;V. VETRISELVAN

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have made it mandatoryfor all food products to be suitably labelled indicating the contents of the packets;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government against these manufactures who violate these laws;

(d) whether the Government have fixed any size of the letters so that they are prominently displayed on the packets or containers;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD)

(a) & (b): Under the provisions of the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977, "net contents" of products in pre-packed items, including food articles, are required to be declared on the label of the package. The Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 require declaration ofthe names of ingredients of the products in the package, in the descending order of their composition by weight or volume, as the case may be.

(c) : Penal action is taken against those who violate the provisions of the law.

(d) & (e): The Prevention of Food Adulteration Ruleshave specified that the size of letters used for declaring information on the label shall be proportionate to the size of package and its principal display panel and shall not be less than 1 mm.

(f) : Does not arise.